U.S. Officials Only

C. L. COLLINS

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY France

SUBJECT Imports of Petroleum Products from Iron Curtain Countries

PLACE ACQUIRED 25X1A

DATE ACQUIRED (BY SOURCE)

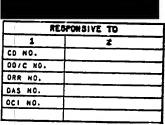
DATE (OF INFO.

THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 789 ARD 314, OF THE U.S. CODE. AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVE. LATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON 15 SOMESTED BY LAT. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS REPORT IS PROMIBITED

25X1X

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1A



DATE DISTR. 10 MAR 54

NO. OF PAGES o

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO REPORT NO.

Actual and projected imposts of petroleum products from Iron Curtain countries 1. have so far been confined to fuel oil and to crude oil.

Freel Oil

- An important serior for low sulphur feel oil has developed in France since the steel mills, through the Chambre Syndicale de la sidérurgie, requested Vice that an effort be made by French refiners to produce a fuel oil having a meximum colphur content of 1.9%.
- Gironde had a virtual monopoly of this market until competitors were able 3. either to manufacture or to import a similar product.
- Russenian fuel which had a sulphur content as low as C.W., finally found its 4. vay into the country as a result of a triangular commercial exchange between Rumenia, Finland and France. Rumenian fuel is currently being imported by Carburents Industriels du Nord (Jossehe) via interp and by Subridor et
- The import licence obtained by Bossche amounts to 40,000 tons. Out of this quantity, 27,000 tong have been imported into France vin inter; between 1 Jan and 31 Aug 53. However, Carburants Industricle du hord ere caper ... having some officeulty in placing the total ementicy covered by their licence and it is not expected that -- than 8,000 additional tone will be imported by them to the end of 1953.
- Carburance Industriels du Mord in ve a contract with Usinor for 25,000 tens which represents 50% of their annual requirement. They have also made apot sales to Pompey and Solles and the endeavoring to close a contract with the latter, amounting to 500 tone a month.
- Labridor obtained an import Licence for 30,000 tons for six months. Imports 7. are made at Houen and stored at the instellations of Compagnie Estisienne des U. S. Officials Only

. . DISTRIBUTION - STATE THAVE X AIR This report is for the use within the USA of the Intelligence components of the Departments or Agencies indicated above. It is not to be transmitted overseas without the concurrence of the originating office through the Assistant Director of the Office of Children of the Office of the Office

25X1A

CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

-2-

Asphaltes. Fuel imported by Eubridor is for the French railways.

- Fetrofrance apparently have also the possibility of importing 25,000 tons of 8. fuel, as they have recently offered Usinor two grades of fuel having a sulphur content of 0.4 and 0.2% respectively at \$ 27.60 and \$ 29.60 per metric ton delivered works as against our latest quotations of \$ 31.54 to the same customer.
- The location of the steel mills in northeastern France has enabled importers 9. of Rumanian fuel to compete strongly with French refiners for this business, with the consequence that unless we are prepared to sacrifice about \$ 4 on our price, we will not be able to retain our present share of this market.
- 10. The specifications of Rumanian fuel are as follows :

Specific gravity	0.930
Engler viscosity at 50°C	6.47
Sulphur	0.38 %
Flash point	113°C
Ash	0.12 %
Cloud point	+ 10
Calories	10,000
Sediment & Water	0.5/0.9%

Crude Oil

400,000 tons of Soviet crude are scheduled to be imported into France under 11. the terms of a commercial agreement with the USCR. However, despite a pressing request by Dica, only one refiner has so far shown any interest in importing this crude viz R P.P.A. (100,000 tons maximum, which has approached separately the Soviet representatives in France with a view to obtaining more definite information on the price and specifications of the crude offered. No indication has so far reached Caembre Syndicale on the former point, and, as regards the latter, the following specifications were given:

Specific gravity at 2000	0.852
Sulphur	1.5 %
Commadson carbon	2%
Vax	5.1%
11ght ends up to 300°c	3.3% up to 46%
Final boiling point	8000
Engler viscosity at 2000	1.4

-end-

SHORET/HE OFFICIALS ONLY

7/735.64 7/735.64 2/735.64 6M(RI) 60M(6M) 6ом 7/735.5 7/735.5 6MIN) N (6M)

in2/nggas.